Federal Geographic Data Committee Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Meeting Minutes March 7, 2005

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Marine and Coastal Spatial Data (MCSD) Subcommittee met at Kingston Plantation Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC, on March 7, 2005. This was a Special Interest Meeting (SIM) of the Coastal GeoTools '05 Conference. The primary purpose of this meeting was to educate a wider audience on the activities of the FGDC and Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee. An agenda and list of the items that were distributed during the meeting are included at the end of the minutes. Individuals who wish to request copies of these items should contact David Stein at *Dave.Stein@noaa.gov*.

## **Opening Remarks/Subcommittee Business**

Tony LaVoi (NOAA), Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting to order. The last meeting was held on November 10, 2004, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Tony reviewed the agenda and then introduced Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC Staff Director. Ivan provided an overview of the FGDC and the new National Geospatial Programs Office (NGPO). Tony LaVoi then provided an overview of the subcommittee and current activities. David Stein, Subcommittee Executive Secretary, then reviewed the meeting minutes and action items from November 10, 2004.

## **Agenda Items**

- **1. V-Datum.** Ed Myers, NOAA Office of Coast Survey, presented on the development of a national Vertical Datum Transformation Tool (VDatum). VDatum is a vertical datum transformation tool that transforms elevation data from one vertical datum into another. Vertical transformations are necessary when data from diverse sources are to be combined or compared. Ed provided an overview of the tool and recent progress and activities. The presentation can be downloaded at the subcommittee's Web site <a href="http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/">http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/</a>. More information on VDatum can be found at <a href="http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/csdl/vdatum.htm">http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/csdl/vdatum.htm</a>.
- **2. Random Access Metadata for On-line National Assessment (RAMONA).**Bill Burgess, National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), presented on the RAMONA project. RAMONA is an on-line system that will allow federal, state and local governments, and the private sector, to continuously inventory and update geospatial data and policies. The information collected through RAMONA will be captured in a way that enables FGDC-compliant metadata to be written and submitted to the Geospatial One-Stop Portal. The presentation can be downloaded at the subcommittee's Web site http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/.
- **3. Benthic Habitat Classification.** Pace Wilber, NOAA Coastal Services Center, presented on a standard for classifying benthic habitats that would allow users to

precisely and systematically relate the various existing classification systems. The draft standard is a collaborative effort between NOAA and NatureServe. The standard's ultimate purpose is to facilitate compilations and comparisons of data without impinging upon the needs that local users have for their specific maps of benthic habitats. Version 2 of the standard was completed in December 2004. Development included a national workshop in March 2003, numerous interviews with scientists and managers that map benthic habitats, and limited pilot testing within National Estuarine Research Reserves. Additional pilot testing is underway to further refine the standards and begin development of the data and tools needed to make the standards operational. The presentation can be downloaded at the subcommittee's Web site - <a href="http://www.esc.noaa.gov/mcsd/">http://www.esc.noaa.gov/mcsd/</a>.

#### 4. Thematic Updates

<u>Shoreline Standard</u>: Nancy Doyle, NOAA National Geodetic Survey, briefed the subcommittee on the status of the FGDC National Shoreline Data Content Standard. The standard is currently in draft stage and will be sent to the subcommittee list server sometime in late March/Early April 2005 for a subcommittee review prior to public review.

<u>Marine Boundaries</u>: Bob Johnson, Mineral Management Service, gave a presentation on MMS' marine boundary responsibilities and recent activities. The presentation can be downloaded at the subcommittee's Web site - <a href="http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/">http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/</a>.

Marine Boundaries Best Practices Handbook: David Stein, NOAA Coastal Services Center, gave an update on the Marine Boundaries Best Practices Handbook. The handbook has been in development for the past 2 years by the FGDC Marine Boundary Working Group and will be sent out for a committee review in early April 2005 and is scheduled to be published by the end of the 2005.

ENC Direct and Collaboration with The National Map: Jim Hawks, NOAA Office of Coast Survey, gave a demo of the NOAA ENC Direct Application. The NOAA ENC Direct to GIS Web portal provides comprehensive access to display, query, and download all available large-scale NOAA ENC data in a variety of GIS/CAD formats for non-navigational purposes using Internet mapping service technology. Jim also provided a status report on recent collaboration with USGS' National Map project. The National Map Project is requesting data layers from ENC Direct to be used in The National Map.

#### Geospatial One-Stop (GOS):

Kim Owens, NOAA National Ocean Service, provided a demo of the Oceans and Estuaries Channel on the E-Gov Geospatial One-Stop (GOS) Portal. Oceans and Estuaries is one of seventeen thematic channels on the GOS Portal. The MCSD SC has been assisting in the development of the Channel. Kim also asked subcommittee members and participants to contact her if they had information to add to the channel. *Kimberly.Owens@noaa.gov* 

## 5. Action Items

There were no action items.

# **Items Distributed**

- Agenda
- Factsheet on subcommittee
- 2005–2006 work plan
- Meeting minutes from November 10, 2004
- Subcommittee overview presentation
- VDatum presentation
- RAMONA presentation
- Benthic Habitat Standard handout
- Marine Boundaries Best Practices handout
- Geospatial One-Stop handout
- Attendees list

### **Attendees**

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ABRAHAM, JAESON	NOAA/NMSP	jaeson.abraham@noaa.gov
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### Agenda

FGDC Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Meeting March 7, 2005 1:00 – 4:30 Coastal GeoTools '05 Conference Kingston Plantation Myrtle Beach, SC

- 1:00 Welcome, introductions, and agenda review Tony LaVoi, Subcommittee Chair
- 1:15 FGDC overview– Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC Secretariat
- 1:30 Subcommittee role and current activities Tony LaVoi, Subcommittee Chair
- 1:40 Review minutes and actions from the last meeting David Stein, Subcommittee Executive Secretary
- 1:45 VDatum overview and implementation Ed Myers, NOAA Office of Coast Survey
- 2:15 Refreshment break
- 2:30 Random Access Metadata for On-line National Assessment RAMONA Bill Burgess, BurGIS

- 2:50 Benthic Habitat Classification Pace Wilber, NOAA Coastal Services Center
- 3:15 Work plan/thematic updates
  - Shoreline Standard Nancy Doyle, NOAA National Geodetic Survey
  - Marine Boundaries Bob Johnson, Minerals Management Service
  - Marine Boundaries Handbook David Stein, NOAA Coastal Services Center
  - ENC Direct and collaboration with The National Map James Hawks, NOAA Office of Coast Survey
  - Geospatial One-Stop participation Kim Owens, NOAA CIO
  - Other updates open to participants
- 4:15 Open discussion; wrap up; next meeting Tony LaVoi, Subcommittee Chair
- 4:30 Adjourn

Meeting Minutes Submitted by

David Stein, NOAA Coastal Services Center FGDC Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Executive Secretary